# Oklahoma Chess Monthly

JULY 2017

*Chess News and Chess History for Oklahoma*

*Sergey Galant Wins First FKB Memorial*

In This Issue:


- The First FKB Memorial
- Aurelio Gonzalez
- Donaldson Book Review
- Plus News Bites, Game of the Month, Puzzles, Top 25 List, Annotated Games, and more.


## The FKB Memorial

*By Tom Braunlich*

The Frank K. Berry Memorial chess tournament was held May 27-28 in Tulsa and featured 51 players, many of whom had not played in a long time but specifically came out to honor the late chess organizer, tournament director, arbiter, and editor who died about this time last year.

One of those was NM Sergey Galant, who hadn't played in 18 months. Not only did he show up, but he won the Open section convincingly with 4½ points, pocketed the $600 prize, and raised his rating back over 2200 where it hasn't been for many years. Sergey defeated NM Howard Zhong in the key fourth-round game and annotates that game for us in this issue.

The Open section was quite strong, with four NMs and many strong experts playing some fighting chess. Second place went to NM Luidmila Mokriak of Kansas City, who bounced back from a first round loss to go 4-1. She was a regular in FKB's major events about ten years ago, including winning one of the Okie Chess Festival


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master round-robins in 2007, but then took several years time out from chess to start a young family. However she came back to tournaments in 2016 and seems to be returning to form, defeating NM Howard Zhong in the last round.

See the crosstables for full results.

The Reserve section was just as combative.

Danial Smith continued his recent string of strong performances winning the Reserve smoothly with 4½ points. A couple of his games are featured in the annotated games section, below.

Clear second place went to CJ Armenta, who was part of the large Kansas City contingent, with a fine 4-1 score.

The tournament also highlighted the participation of several talented young players from many states including Sho Glashausser of Kansas (who won U1900 honors in the Open Section), Ricardo Rivera (who won U1400 in the Reserve and is to be the Arkansas representative at the Barber national events this Summer), as well as Maxwell Barnes, Ryan Amburgy, Cael Province, Joseph Abousharkh, Oscar Wang, Aaron Peters, Luke Tran, and others.

On the other end of the spectrum, several veteran players bravely "played up" into the Open section and did quite well. This include Bruce and Rubin Wells, plus Larry Deputy (playing his first tournament in seven years, again to honor Frank Berry at this memorial event). All three performed very well.

IM John Donaldson wanted to come to play in this event for his old friend, but was committed to captaining the U.S. team at the world team championship going on in Russia in June, and thus couldn't make it. Also unable to come was former Okie Alex Relyea (now living in New Hampshire). He says he hopes to come down for the Steve Wharry Classic later this Fall.

TDs were Tom Braunlich and Jim Berry.

Scenes from the 2017 FKB Memorial:

NM Luidmila Mokriak, 2nd place. (Photo by Cheng Zhong)

Danial Smith won the Reserve. (Photo: TB)

The top boards in round 4: left to right: Zhong, Holliman, Zelnick, Galant. (Photo: TB)

Jim Berry. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Joe Dean Veal (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Ricard Rivera, of Arkansas. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

NM Bob Holliman (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Maxwell Barnes. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Bruce Wells. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Howard Zhong. (Photo: TB)

Sergey Galant. (Photo: TB)

Left to right: Paolercio, Graham-Bowcaster, Glashausser, Hatcher. (Photo: TB)

Curtis Williams (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

## Frank K Berry Memorial: Open Section
### May 27-28 • Tulsa OK • TDs Tom Braunlich, Jim Berry

| # | Name | Rtng | Post | St | Rd 1 | Rd 2 | Rd 3 | Rd 4 | Rd 5 | Tot |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sergey S Galant | 2178 | 2203 | OK | W24 | W6 | W13 | W5 | D3 | 4.5 |
| 2 | Luidmila Mokriak | 2131 | 2129 | KS | L9 | W15 | W19 | X22 | W5 | 4.0 |
| 3 | David E Zelnick | 2146 | 2151 | OK | W23 | W9 | H--- | D12 | D1 | 3.5 |
| 4 | Shaun Graham-Bowcaster | 1934 | 1944 | OK | L5 | W21 | H--- | W20 | W9 | 3.5 |
| 5 | Howard Zhong | 2241 | 2236 | OK | W4 | W25 | W12 | L1 | L2 | 3.0 |
| 6 | Steven Bellisario | 1957 | 1955 | AR | W17 | L1 | D9 | W19 | D7 | 3.0 |
| 7 | Jeff Colbert | 1986 | 1984 | OK | D15 | H--- | D10 | W11 | D6 | 3.0 |
| 8 | Joe Dean Veal | 2043 | 2027 | OK | L20 | W23 | D11 | D10 | W15 | 3.0 |
| 9 | Sho Glashausser | 1772 | 1828 | KS | W2 | L3 | D6 | W14 | L4 | 2.5 |
| 10 | Wayne L Hatcher | 1930 | 1937 | OK | L12 | W26 | D7 | D8 | D13 | 2.5 |
| 11 | Blake Tanner | 1930 | 1931 | AR | L18 | W16 | D8 | L7 | W19 | 2.5 |
| 12 | Bob Holliman | 2200 | 2198 | MO | W10 | W14 | L5 | D3 | U--- | 2.5 |
| 13 | Anthony Paolercio | 2130 | 2123 | OK | W16 | D18 | L1 | H--- | D10 | 2.5 |
| 14 | James Long | 1971 | 1957 | OK | W26 | L12 | H--- | L9 | W17 | 2.5 |
| 15 | Bruce Wells | 1539 | 1602 | OK | D7 | L2 | D20 | W16 | L8 | 2.0 |
| 16 | Richard Ravits | 1747 | 1743 | OK | L13 | L11 | W21 | L15 | W23 | 2.0 |
| 17 | Rubin A Wells | 1514 | 1563 | OK | L6 | D24 | D23 | W26 | L14 | 2.0 |
| 18 | Tom Braunlich | 2201 | 2202 | OK | W11 | D13 | H--- | U--- | U--- | 2.0 |
| 19 | Curtis Williams Jr | 1685 | 1696 | OK | D22 | W20 | L2 | L6 | L11 | 1.5 |
| 20 | Larry M Deputy | 1677 | 1667 | OK | W8 | L19 | D15 | L4 | L21 | 1.5 |
| 21 | Ryan Amburgy | 1688 | 1684 | OK | L25 | L4 | L16 | D23 | W20 | 1.5 |
| 22 | Michael Nugent | 2087 | 2080 | OK | D19 | H--- | H--- | F2 | U--- | 1.5 |
| 23 | Luke M Tran | 1780 | 1751 | KS | L3 | L8 | D17 | D21 | L16 | 1.0 |
| 24 | Jim Berry | 1888 | 1877 | OK | L1 | D17 | H--- | U--- | U--- | 1.0 |
| 25 | John R Cope | 2089 | 2086 | OK | W21 | L5 | U--- | U--- | U--- | 1.0 |
| 26 | Jared Ellis | 1516 | 1496 | OK | L14 | L10 | H--- | L17 | U--- | 0.5 |

Reserve section, rd 4. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Oscar Wang. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Joseph Abousharkh. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

Istvan Szabad. (Photo: Cheng Zhong)

**Frank K Berry Memorial: Reserve Section**
**May 27-28, 2017 • Tulsa OK • TDs: Tom Braunlich, Jim Berry**

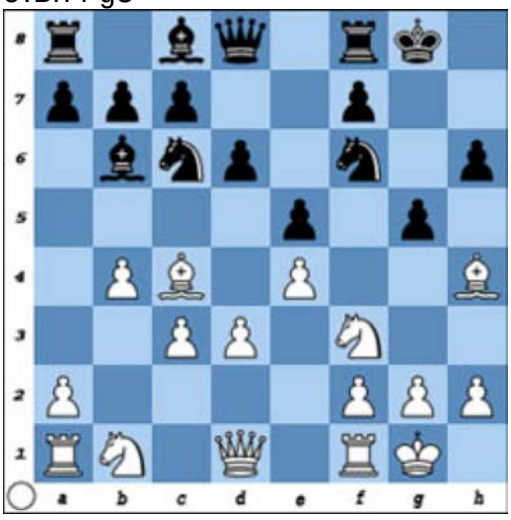
| # | Name | Rtng | Post | St | Rd 1 | Rd 2 | Rd 3 | Rd 4 | Rd 5 | Tot |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Danial Smith | 1695 | 1715 | OK | W12 | W11 | W2 | W8 | D3 | 4.5 |
| 2 | CJ Armenta | 1475 | 1539 | MO | W15 | W6 | L1 | W14 | W8 | 4.0 |
| 3 | Laurence Coker | 1602 | 1606 | KS | W21 | D4 | W17 | D7 | D1 | 3.5 |
| 4 | Joseph Abousharkh | 1416 | 1426 | KS | W23 | D3 | D11 | D6 | W9 | 3.5 |
| 5 | Cael Province | 1457 | 1469 | KS | W13 | W9 | L8 | W15 | D7 | 3.5 |
| 6 | Ricardo Rivera | 1183 | 1337 | AR | W22 | L2 | W21 | D4 | W14 | 3.5 |
| 7 | Istvan Szabad | 1548 | 1555 | OK | W18 | W20 | H--- | D3 | D5 | 3.5 |
| 8 | Martin Stahl | 1555 | 1551 | MO | W16 | W14 | W5 | L1 | L2 | 3.0 |
| 9 | Chris Ambrgy | 926 | 1158 | OK | W17 | L5 | W16 | W11 | L4 | 3.0 |
| 10 | Cason Wilson | unr. | 1259 | OK | L14 | L18 | W23 | W21 | W16 | 3.0 |
| 11 | Maxwell Barnes | 1408 | 1387 | OK | W19 | L1 | D4 | L9 | W15 | 2.5 |
| 12 | Daryl R Fouard | 1303 | 1294 | KS | L1 | W23 | L15 | D13 | W18 | 2.5 |
| 13 | Aaron Peters | 1212 | 1234 | OK | L5 | L17 | W19 | D12 | W22 | 2.5 |
| 14 | Oscar Wang | 1334 | 1326 | OK | W10 | L8 | W18 | L2 | L6 | 2.0 |
| 15 | Gabe A Coss | 1237 | 1264 | OK | L2 | W22 | W12 | L5 | L11 | 2.0 |
| 16 | Robert W Moore | 1247 | 1227 | OK | L8 | W19 | L9 | W22 | L10 | 2.0 |
| 17 | Stanley M Horton | 1424 | 1386 | MO | L9 | W13 | L3 | D18 | H--- | 2.0 |
| 18 | Charles Homolka | 1247 | 1237 | AR | L7 | W10 | L14 | D17 | L12 | 1.5 |
| 19 | Wesley Long | unr. | 884 | OK | L11 | L16 | L13 | D23 | W24 | 1.5 |
| 20 | Alex Glashausser | 1176 | 1173 | KS | W24 | L7 | H--- | U--- | U--- | 1.5 |
| 21 | Peter K Shirley | 1253 | 1215 | AR | L3 | W24 | L6 | L10 | U--- | 1.0 |
| 22 | Jimmy Nazario | 1431 | 1335 | OK | L6 | L15 | W24 | L16 | L13 | 1.0 |
| 23 | Hunter Weaver | 919 | 903 | AR | L4 | L12 | L10 | D19 | H--- | 1.0 |
| 24 | Rebecca Rutledge | 582 | 569 | OK | L20 | L21 | L22 | B--- | L19 | 1.0 |

# GAMES FROM THE FKB MEMORIAL

NM Sergey Galant (2178)
NM Howard Zhong (2241)
Frank K Berry Memorial (Rd 4), 5-28-2017
*[Notes by Sergey Galant]*

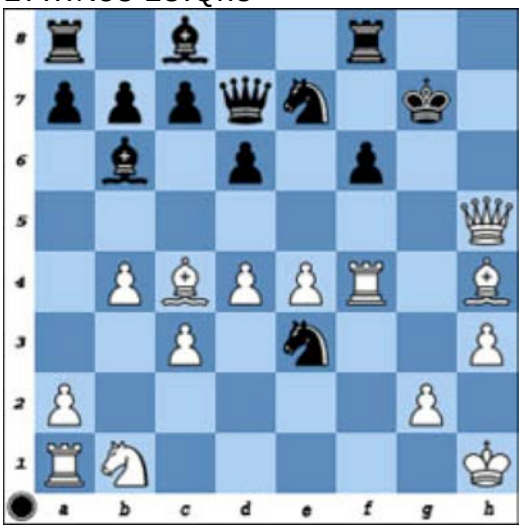
This was my first tournament in 18 months, but I felt obligated to play in the Frank Berry Memorial tournament and give respect to the memory of the man who did so much for Oklahoma chess and me personally. After such a long layoff, I was obviously skeptical about

my chances to compete against young and up-and-coming players. Having a chance to play against rapidly improving Howard was a welcome challenge.
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4
Giuoco Piano...Not the most exciting choice, but I felt okay playing a quiet opening.
3...Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.b4?!
Somewhat dubious choice, but staying away from the main lines is something I like to do to keep things interesting. d4, d3 or 0-0 were other options.
5...Bb6 6.d3 O-O 7.O-O d6
At this point, White needed to decide on placement of his pieces. One possible plan involves moves Bb3, Nbd2 with possible Nc4 after that, trying to exchange a knight for the dark square bishop. Alternatively, I could play a4, forcing a5, followed by b5, gaining space on queenside. Normally, I would have chosen one of these options, but another idea popped up in my head. }
8.Bg5 h6
Natural response by black.
9.Bh4 g5



10.Nxg5?!
Let's make things interesting! White gives up a piece for a couple of pawns, but acquires sustained initiative. Objectively, the piece sacrifice is not sound, but I was hoping that unbalanced nature of the position would provide White with plenty of chances down the road. Also, having tried this idea in a couple of blitz games with mixed success, I was curious to see how it would play out against a strong opponent in regular time control. *(In my database this is a new move, as white here has replied 10.Bg3 in five games, including one by honorary Okie Michael Langer! — TB)*
10...hxg5 11.Bxg5 Kg7
Protecting a weak piece.
12.Kh1
Opening f-file should help White to increase pressure, so this move looked forced to me. (12.Qf3 Rh8 13.a4 a5 14.b5 Nb8 15.Na3 Be6 is possible, but it's unclear how White should proceed now.)
12...Qd7 13.f4
The most direct way to keep Black out of his comfort zone. (13.a4 was a possibility, but after 13...Ng4 14.h3 f6 15.Bc1 Rh8 16.Ra2 a5 White's initiative all but evaporates.)
13...exf4
The position becomes tactical quickly, and significance of even small misstep increases exponentially. ( 13...Qg4! 14.fxe5 Nh7 15.Bf6+ Kg6 16.Qe1 Nxe5 17.Bxe5 dxe5 seems safe for Black, although caution is still necessary.)
14.Rxf4
If 14.Bxf6+ Kxf6 15.Rxf4+ Ke7 and it's hard to come up with something tangible for White.)
14...Ng4
Looking at f2 and preparing f6.
15.d4
This has to be done, although still insufficient. Luckily for White, Black misses the opportunity.
15...f6?
(Better was 15...Nce5! 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Qxd7 Bxd7 18.Rxg4 Bxg4)
16.Bh4 Ne7
Black is thinking defense first, but 16...Rh8 might have been a better option — 17.Qe1 Nxd4 18.Qg3 Rxh4 19.Qxh4 Nc2 etc.
*(TB -- The computer likes 16...Ne3 for black initially, but then sees white has a perpetual check after 17. Qh5, Nxc4 18. Bxf6+)*
17.h3?
White gets impatient and gives Black a prime opportunity to simplify into won endgame. Correct was 17.Be2! Nh6 18.Bh5 Neg8 19.Nd2 Kh8 20.Qf3 and White keeps pressure on.

17...Ne3 18.Qh5



18...Ng6??

Again, Black chooses a more defensive line, but this time it is a serious mistake. Howard fails to recognize that he can afford giving up a queen in order to stop White's attack. Instead: 18...Nxc4! 19.Rg4+ Qxg4 20.hxg4 Be6 and White simply doesn't have enough resources to maintain initiative.

19.Bxf6+!

Simple, but effective! Temporary piece sacrifice wins a pawn and opens up Black King further.

19...Rxf6 20.Rxf6 Kxf6 21.Qf3+ Kg7 22.Qxe3

In spite of several missteps, Black still maintains small edge, but it is imperative for Howard to consolidate his army.

22...Qe7 23.Nd2 Be6 24.Bxe6 Qxe6 25.Rf1!

Only active play can save White here, so giving up a pawn to activate the rook is a no-brainer. The factor of time is staring to play a role as well. White has been under 5 minutes for a while now, and Black is starting to get short on time as well.

25...Qxa2?!

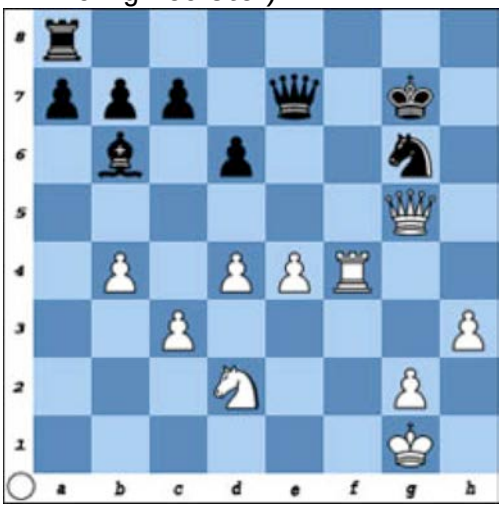
Black may have been better off bringing rook into the game at this point.

26.Qg5

26.c4! was more precise, threatening c5 and cutting off opponent's Queen from the action in the same time.)

26...Qe6 27.Rf4 Qe7?!

A minor inaccuracy that allows White to re-organize heavy artillery by putting a Rook in front of the Queen. (Better: 27...Rf8 28.Rh4 Kf7 29.Rg4 c6 etc.)



28.Qg3 Rg8 29.Rg4 Qf7 30.Nf3

Passive play over the last 6 or 7 moves has put Black in a tight spot. His knight is pinned, his bishop is cut off from the game and major pieces are purely passive defenders without much chance to get active any time soon.

30...Kf8 31.Ng5 Qe8 32.Qf3+ Ke7 33.Qf5 Rf8 34.Qd5

Both players are under two minutes here, but White has the initiative and more easily definable targets. Black can probably hold the position with proper play, but threats are numerous, and it is so easy to go wrong...

34...Rf4??

Decisive mistake.

*(Ed. Note — After the game I suggested here 34...Rf1+ 35. Kh2 c6, since this at least get's black's bishop finally into the game via c7, at the cost of a pawn after 36. Qe6+, Kd8 37.Qxd6+, Kc8. Because here black is saved by the cheap threat of ..Bc7 winning white's queen. And the computer points out if white then blocks the diagonal with the apparently strong 38. e5, then 38... Nxe5! 39. dxe5, Bg1+ gets a perpetual check. Instead white would have to trade queens with 38. Qe6+ and try his luck in a favorable but complicated ending with three strong passed pawns for the piece.—TB)*

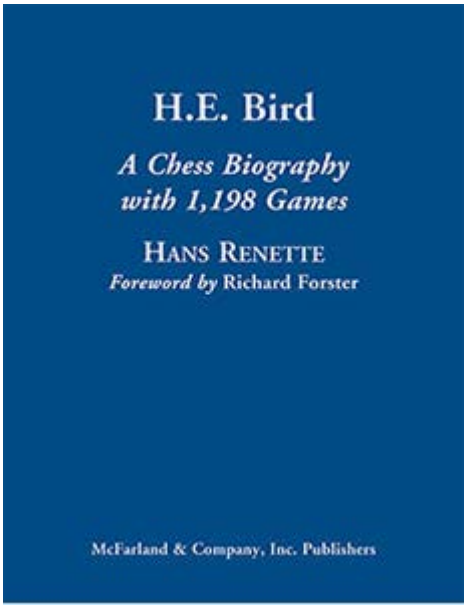
35.Qe6+! Kd8 36.Rxf4 Nxf4 37.Qf6+?

I have calculated the variant that wins easily, but managed to miss a shorter path to victory

Continued on page 11

# "H.E.Bird"

by
IM
John
Donaldson




McFarland, the premier publisher on chess history, recently put out one of its best ever books dedicated to the life and games of the English master H. E. Bird. Best remembered for the openings that bear his name (1.f4 and the Ruy Lopez defense 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4), he was also a prominent journalist and writer.

*H. E. Bird* (McFarland 2016, www.mcfarlandpub.com, order line 800-253-2187, hard cover with library binding, 608 pages, $75) by Hans Renette is everything one could want in a book dedicated to an important but neglected figure in chess history. There are close to 1,200 games, the majority of which have not seen the light of day in over 100 years, rescued from newspaper columns of the day. Approximately 40 percent of them appear with annotations using both contemporary and modern notes.

Intermingled with the games is biographical material that paints a full picture of Bird's life. This is no small feat as previous to this book little was known of his private affairs that had a profound effect on Bird's chess career. As Renette relates Bird was an accomplished accountant leading a normal domestic life until he was struck by a series of blows that would have crushed many a man. In a short span of time both his wife and father died and

Bird played Morphy, Steinitz, and Lasker in his long career, with wins against the later two champions. The seated players at this 1893 tournament are Bird (left), Em. Lasker, Tchigorin, Blackburne, Schlechter

Henry Edward Bird

not long after his company went under forcing him to declare bankruptcy. Already in his early forties, he found solace by becoming a chess professional.

Bird is remembered as a mad attacker, a coffee house player par excellence at a time before the defensive precepts of Steinitz and Lasker filtered down to the masses.

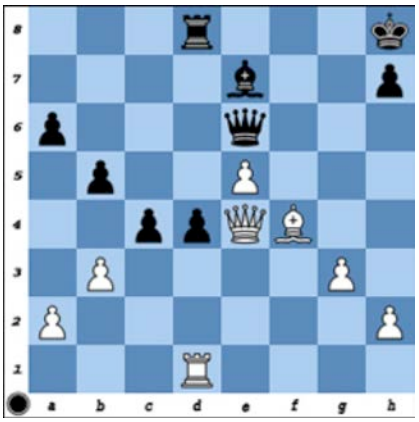
While he could play in ways we would recognize today (1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.b3 and with colors reversed 1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.Nf3 b6 – in both cases following Bb5xc6 (or …Bb4xc3) when allowed, what Bird really liked was novel opening play leading to original positions. His answer to the Ruy Lopez, 3…Nd4, often following up with …h5, …Kf8, …a5 and …Ra6, retains some value today, but his anti-French line 1.e4 e6 2.Bb5 definitely doesn't. While it has been tried by several players rated over 2400 FIDE, one of Bird's opponents at Vienna 1873 found one reason not to recommend it, namely 2…Qg5 forcing 3.Bf1. Had Black then retreated his queen to d8 White would have been back to square one.

*H. E. Bird* is an all-around first-rate effort. In addition to McFarland's usual high production values (good quality paper, library binding and a clear layout) this book has numerous fine illustrations, an extensive bibliography and many different indices. An insightful introduction by International Master Richard Forster points out among his many accomplishments Bird was of the first masters to play the Dragon Sicilian.

*H. E. Bird* is an outstanding book that pays proper homage to not only Bird, but the period of English chess in which he was an active player.

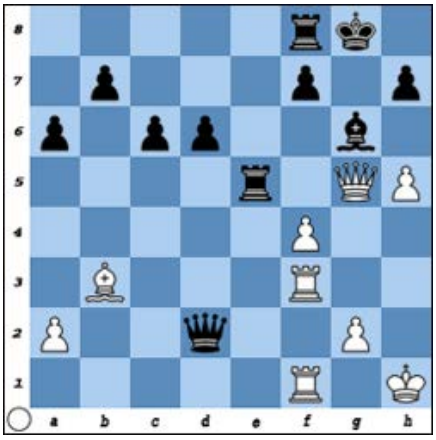
Highly recommended.

Em. Lasker — Bird, Liverpool, 1890



48. … d3 49. bc4 bc4 50. Bd2 Bf8 51. Bc3 Bg7 52. Rb1 h6 53. Rb2 Kg8 54. Qe3 Rf8 55. Qe4 Qf7 56. e6 Qf1 mate 0-1

Bird — Horwitz, London, 1851



29. Bf7! Rf7 30. Qd8 Rf8 31. Qf8 Kf8 32. fe5 Kg7 33. hg6 de5 34. gh7 Kh7 35. Kh2 e4 36. Rh3 Kg6 37. Rg3 Kh7 38. Rf7 Kh6 39. Rf6 Kh5 40. Rf8 Qd4 41. Rh8 Qh8 42. Rh3 Kg5 43. Rh8 Kf4 44. Rf8 Ke3 45. Kg3 c5 46. Rb8 b5 47. Rb6 c4 48. Ra6 c3 49. Rc6 Kd2 50. Kf4 e3 51. Rd6 Ke2 52. g4 Kf2 53. Rh6 e2 54. Rh2 Kf1 55. Kf3 e1N 56. Ke3 Ng2 57. Rg2 Kg2 58. g5 b4 59. Kd3 1-0

# More Anderson's Axioms …

*(See May 2017 for "Anderson's Axioms")*

Axiom #11: The reason why I have better results in faster time controls? I have less time to second-guess my first guess. … My 8th grade teacher once told me that in multiple-choice tests, always go with your first guess. Of course, this assumes that you've studied the subject you're being tested on and have a deep feel for it. In a game of chess every time you have the move you're facing a multiple-choice problem, except there may be many 'right' moves to choose from. Your first guess is often a correct one. In tournament chess you don't have to show your thinking that led up to the move you made. You only have to keep score of the actual moves played.

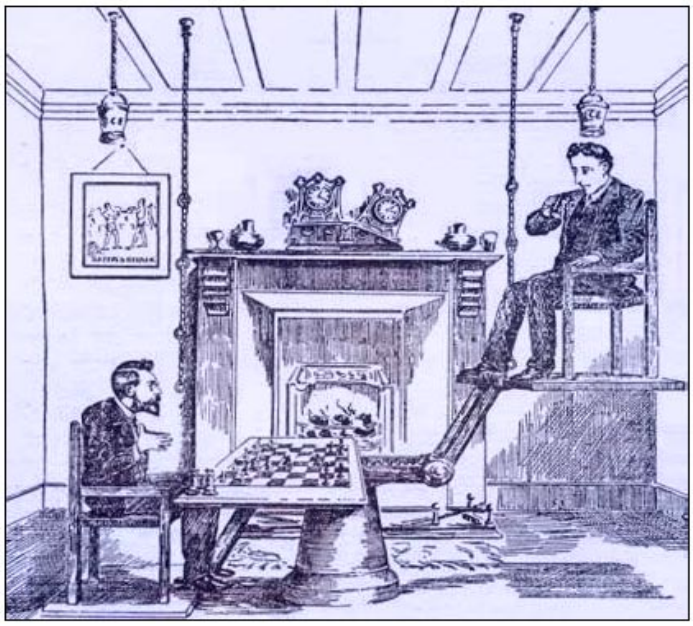
Axiom #15: Before a slower, classical tournament chess game, do not rush yourself when setting up your pieces. All this does is put your mind in a "hurry up" mode. Set up your set slowly, placing each piece perfectly centered in its square so you don't have to go back and adjust it. This is puts you in the right frame of mind and is also good practice in resisting being hurried by your opponent in the course of the game.

Axiom #18: The key to good chess is emptiness.

Axiom #21: In chess, as in life, winning or losing doesn't matter. Getting better is what matters. Capablanca said, "You have to lose a lot of games before you become a good player." This may explain Fischer's statement, "One day I just got good."

Axiom #29: The post-mortem in chess is where the losing player can win the game she "should have" won in the first place.

Axiom #62: In life, as in chess, perfection is an unending process. What is "perfect" is the process itself; not the goal, but the seemingly unending quest.



# … Plus Limmericks

On Bobby Fischer:

There was once a chessplayer who tore
Through his foes with a maximum score.
When he'd killed everyone
He found chess was no fun,
So he didn't play chess anymore.
*— Wesley Koehler*

There once was a boy named Bobby
Who took up chess as a hobby.
After many years of study and play
He became world champion one day.
Now he's the target of everybody!
*— Robert Anderson*

On Mikhail Tal:

There was once a chessplayer so Tal
No one else matched his stature at all.
Both with white and with black
His terrific attack
Made opponents feel awfully small.
*— Wesley Koehler*

For JULY 2017

| Top 25 Active Oklahoma Players | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Player | This Month | Change +/- | |
| 1 | Advait Patel | 2507 | 22 | |
| 2 | Daniel Ng | 2273 | 0 | |
| 3 | Howard Zhong | 2241 | 6 | |
| 4 | Mark Hulsey | 2221 | 0 | |
| 5 | Tom Braunlich | 2203 | 0 | |
| 6 | Sergey Galant | 2203 | 0 | |
| 7 | Tom Amburn | 2200 | 0 | |
| 8 | Chibuzo C Ilonze | 2178 | 0 | |
| 9 | David Zelnick | 2154 | 0 | |
| 10 | Joshua Alexander | 2142 | 0 | |
| 11 | Jamal I. El Chamieh | 2124 | 0 | |
| 12 | Anthony Paolercio | 2121 | 0 | |
| 13 | Ryan Farell | 2089 | 0 | |
| 14 | Chuck Johnson | 2087 | 0 | |
| 15 | John Cope | 2084 | 0 | |
| 16 | Tom Patton | 2080 | 0 | |
| 17 | Michael Nugent | 2077 | 0 | ▲ |
| 18 | James Tyner | 2074 | 0 | ▲ |
| 19 | Veronika Zilajeva | 2070 | -8 | ▼ |
| 20 | David Luscomb | 2068 | 0 | |
| 21 | Charles D Unruh | 2062 | 0 | |
| 22 | Matt Dalthorp | 2052 | 0 | |
| 23 | Alan Islas | 2024 | 0 | |
| 24 | Joe Dean Veal | 2021 | 0 | |
| 25 | Charles M Unruh | 2005 | 0 | |

## Player of the Month

*Advait Patel*

The talented young senior master broke 2500 this past month at the Chicago Open and cruised through the Oklahoma Open.

37.Nf7+ wins a Queen.
37...Kc8 38.Qxf4 a5?
Obviously frustrated with the blunder on the 34th move, Howard compounds the damage with further missteps. To be fair, at this point, the game is lost anyway.
39.bxa5 Bxa5?? 40.Qf5+
The game is over. While neither side has played particularly well, this game had some interesting dynamics and was extremely exciting to the very end. I'm sure it is not the last time Howard and I get to square off, and I'm looking forward to battling him again.
1-0

Amburgy, Ryan (1688)
Cope, John R (2089) [D10]
Frank K Berry Memorial Open *[TB]*
Amburgy is a former student of Cope's. A tough first-round pairing. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.f3 Nc6 6.e4 Qb6 7.Bb5 Bd7 8.e5 Nxd4 9.exf6 Nxb5 10.Nxd5 Qe6+ 11.Ne2 Bc6 12.fxe7 Bxe7 13.Nxe7 Qxe7 14. 0-0 0-0 15.Bf4 Rfe8 16.Re1 Qc5+ 17.Kh1 Rad8 18.Qb3 Nd4 19.Nxd4 Qxd4 20.Bg5 Rc8 21.Rad1?

Black to move and win!

21...Ba4! 22.Qc3 [22.Rxd4 Rxe1#; 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8; 22.Rg1 Qxd1 23.Qxd1 Bxd1 24.Rxd1 Re2 etc.] 22...Qxd1 0-1

Long, Wesley (UNR)
Barnes, Maxwell (1408) [C20]
Frank K Berry Memorial -Reserve *[TB]*

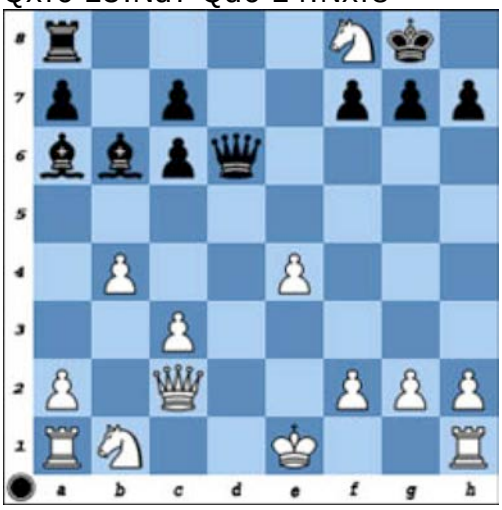
# PUZZLES

Answers Next Page

White to move and win.

White to move and win.
*Caruana – Ponomariov, 2014*

1.e4 e5 2.c3 d5 3.Qc2 Nf6 4.d3 Nc6 5.Bg5 dxe4 6.dxe4 Bc5 7.Bb5 0-0 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.b4 Bb6 10.Nf3 Ba6 11.Nxe5 Qd6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Nd7 Qd6 14.Nxf8



Re8!? Instead of recapturing the knight, he makes a threat. I like Max's creativity... 15.Nd2 Bd3 16.Qd1? [Unfortunate. Instead 16.Qb3 Kxf8 and the game goes on with black having pretty good compensation for the exchange. (The difference here is that white would have an escape square on d1 for his king compared to the game.)] 16...Kxf8 [16...Qf6! 17.Qf3 Qxc3 18.Rd1 Kxf8 is winning for black.] 17.f3? [17.Qf3 is now not clear.] 17...Qf4! 18.Nf1 Rxe4+! 19.Qe2 Rxe2+ 20.Kd1 Re1+ 21.Kxe1 Qe5+ 22.Kd1 Qe2+ 23.Kc1 Qc2# 0-1

Braunlich,Tom (2201)
Paolercio,Anthony (2130) [B06]
Frank K Berry Memorial Open *[TB]*
1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 g6 3.e4 Bg7 4.Nc3 a6 5.a4 Nd7 6.Be3 Ngf6 7.h3 b6?! [This move is too weakening. With the N on d7 and the B still on c8 black is vulnerable on the diagonal. Better was 7...0-0 8.Be2 e5 *(8...b6?! 9.e5 Ne8 10.Bc4* with a big advantage for white*)* 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.0-0 Small edge for white, as in the game Sveshnikov,E (2535)-Azmaiparashvili,Z (2470) 1986, ½-½] 8.e5! Ng8 9.Bc4± e6 10.Qe2?! [The computer says winning is 10.Ng5 with the idea of Qf3 or Bxe6. However, I didn't trust this move. In that case: 10...Nh6 I thought would be okay for black. The computer then gives 11.Qf3 Ra7 12.Bxe6 0-0 *(12...fxe6 13.Nxe6 Qe7 14.Nxg7+ Qxg7 15.Bxh6 Qxh6*

# Answers to the Puzzles

Two puzzles with cheeky rook move solutions.

(1) 1. Rb7+! Now if Black captures with the rook, he unprotects his queen and loses it, but the other capture 1…Kxb7 allows the discovered double-check 2. Bc8+! and once again Black's queen is unprotected after 2…Kxc8 3. Qxg8+, and furthermore the loose rook will fall next move 3…Kb7 4. Qg7+ etc.

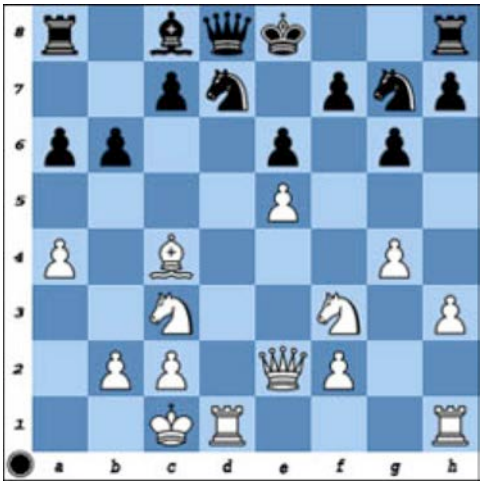
(2) 1. Re7! This move threatens Rxc7+, so the rook must be taken, but after 1…Qxe7 Black's queen no longer is protecting the a8 square, which white exploits now with the spectacular 2. Ba6! (threatening mate) 2…Kxa6 3. Qa8 mate!

*16.e6!* is a very nice tactic I didn't see during the game.*)* 13.Bxd7 Bxd7 and it says white is a pawn up… but I hardly think that is clear. Black would call it a pawn gambit and have some compensation.]

10…dxe5 11.Bg5?!

[The gambit 11.d5! I considered but dismissed, even though it is reasonable to try to pry open the light squares quickly. I thought black could just go 11…Nf8 but then white does get a strong initiative for the pawn after 12.0-0-0 Qe7 13.dxe6 fxe6 14.Bg5; So after 11.d5 my Fritz says 11…exd5 12.Bxd5 Ra7 13.Bxf7+ Kxf7 14.Ng5+ with a strong attack. 14…Ke8 15.Qc4 Nh6 16.0-0-0 etc.]

**11…Bf6 12.Bxf6 Ngxf6 13.dxe5 Nh5 14.g4 Ng7 15.0-0-0**



I had been playing for this position and thought it would be a winning advantage for me, because black can never castle kingside, and castling

Continued on Page 22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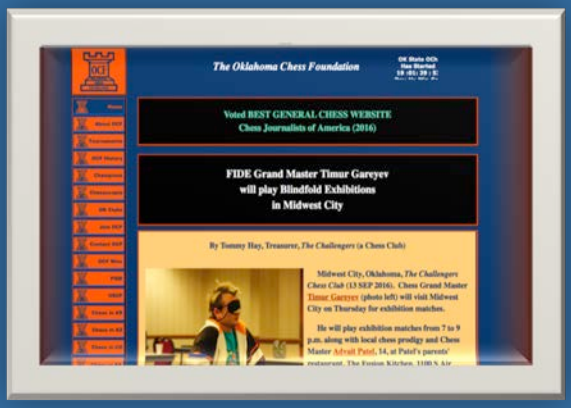
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*… and more*

Honorary Okie Conrad Holt is said to be living now in the San Francisco Bay Area of California and working for Google according to John Donaldson of the Mechanics Chess Club in San Francisco.

Holt, 24, is from Wichita and cut his chess teeth mainly on Oklahoma and regional chess tournaments up to about 2350 rating, and after that was headquartered in Dallas where he played for the strong UTD chess team. He became a GM in 2012 at age 19, and played in the 2013 World Cup. He won the 2014 U.S. Open and played in the strong 2015 U.S. Championship.

Holt in play vs Gm Gareyev in the 2015 U.S. Championship (photo by TB)

Jeffrey Xiong is another Honorary Okie who has been very active at the highest levels this year. He just finished playing fourth board for the U.S. team in the World Team Championship held in Kanty-Mansisk, Russia, in June, the U.S. Championship in April, and three GM invitationals in between during the Spring with solid results.

The Scarlett Chess Club 10th Anniversary Tournament, with its impressive $5,000 guaranteed prize fund, was played June 10-11 in Jonesboro, AR, on the east side of the state. The Open section was won by IM Ron Burnett of TN ($750). Steven Bellisario, of Fort Smith, won the U2000 ($500).

The generous prize fund, which caused some buzz here in Oklahoma, was spread across six sections, but unfortunately the turnout was not high enough to fully populate all the sections, with some having fewer players than the number of rounds, leading to pairings headaches for the director. For example, the U1800 section had just three players. But to their credit they got through it!

Steven Bellisario also defeated former U.S. Women's Champion Nazi Pakidze in a simultaneous game during the recent U.S. Supernationals scholastic championship. (See photo.)

Advait Patel won the Oklahoma Open 5-0, held June 24-25 in Tulsa, sponsored by OCA. The Reserve section was also dominated by junior players, with Loucas Miller winning (4½), and youngsters Cael Province, Maxwell Barnes, and Noah Reid tied for second with 3½.

The OCA annual business meeting elected three members-at-large: Rebecca Rutledge (assistant editor of this publication!), Qing Cao, and Shaun Graham-Bowcaster.

# Checkmate!

## Aurelio Frank Gonzalez, Jr.

January 7, 1963 – May 11, 2017

by Carmen Chairez, Tom Crane, and Jim Hollingsworth

Perhaps it is fate that last Easter Sunday our old friend Aurelio "Frank" Gonzalez was strolling through Fort Worth's Greenwood Memorial Park with his wife Kathy, looking at tombstones and getting ideas for decorating her deceased mother's grave, when he paused and mentioned, "When I go, I want *'Checkmate!'* on my tombstone!"

Who could have known then the beloved North Texas player would pass away in only a few weeks?

Aurelio Gonzalez was a loving father and faithful husband. He went through his entire life without a single enemy and had a mountain of friends. He was also a chess champion. (Few would know that, unless they had played in 2003 Tarrant County (Texas) Championship, where he topped a 31 player field. Aurelio never bragged about his title. In fact, he never bragged about anything, especially himself.)

His family called him Junior. His close friends called him Frank. As a youngster, the neighborhood kids could not pronounce his first name. He said, "Don't worry about it. Call me anything." Someone said, "Hey, Frank!" and he answered. He became "Frank" from then on. At the chess club, we didn't know he was Frank, especially since he always answered when we said, "Hey, Aurelio!"

A strong class A player, Aurelio treasured the game and was a USCF Life Member. USCF records only go back to 1991, yet show he played nearly 600 rated chess games including one victory over a master (Alex Chua in 2007). He also scored 6 draws against masters, including one against Jeffrey Xiong (in 2011). It is probable Aurelio played over 1,000 rated games as he was active long before 1991. (One of this article's authors played him in Austin in 1981.)

Like many of us, Aurelio settled down, married his beautiful wife and best friend, Kathy, put chess on the back burner, and focused on his family and career.

They first met in 1986. He had given notice to his employer and she was hired as his replacement. He trained her, side-by-side, and then moved on to what he thought would

be greener pastures. But, he soon discovered his new job, telemarketing, wasn't his cup of tea and asked for his old job back. But, doing so meant the nice young lady he had trained would lose her job. He would have none of that so instead he accepted work available on the night shift.

For the next year, "Frank" and Kathy bumped into each other and socialized often in the break room. They would smile and laugh. He told her funny stories. But, he was a gentlemen and a little shy. So, she played the next and most important move of their lives and asked him to go on a date.

However, there were some pitfalls in the romance. She knew of his passion ("I didn't choose chess. Chess chose me."). She wanted to make things work and agreed to go on a special date — to a chess tournament! She recalls it was in a church, in a large room filled with chess players and about a hundred old-fashioned chess clocks (and all going "Tic tock, tic tock, tic tock!"). She felt like all that noise in the cavernous tournament hall was going to drive her insane! She made a phone call. "Mom, come get me!"

If God has mansions for chess widows, Kathy Gonzales surely has a huge one reserved for her and her Frank. They married in 1988 and remained devoted to each other.

Aurelio managed to play in only five tourneys during the 1990's. That all changed in 2001. After he returned home from work, Kathy gave him a postcard from Harmon Throneberry, an active player/organizer who lived in Watauga, Texas, the same as Aurelio and Kathy. Harmon was organizing the Watauga Chess Club and had the city's permission to host it in an old farmhouse. Aurelio was quickly drafted as treasurer and faithfully accomplished his duties the rest of his life.

There is one funny story about Aurelio's flexibility as Club Treasurer. The prizes weren't big, maybe 8 or 10 dollars for Second Place. One of the club members finished in the money quite often, but often wouldn't

deposit his modest checks for months. Aurelio told him, "Look, you're messing up my accounting! Cash those checks, will ya'?" The player persisted, most likely because he wanted to frame the checks, but kept changing his mind. So, Aurelio started paying out cash and having the winners sign receipts. That's an example of Aurelio's creative problem solving and financial management.

The name "Watauga" is an Indian word meaning "Many Springs." Aurelio finished second out of 18 players, with a 3.5/4.0 score in the club's first tournament, Many Springs Open #1 (MSO #1). The Watauga Chess Club's name eventually changed to the Tarrant County Chess Club. Aurelio Gonzalez's life touched 266 out of 267 Tarrant County Chess Club tournaments, as a player, organizer, tournament director, and club treasurer. MSO #100, on May 20, 2017, was the only event he missed. However, all 19 players honored Aurelio by waiving their prizes as donations to help Aurelio's family.

Aurelio Gonzalez was an extremely active member of the Texas Chess Team. So active, in fact, that Victor Yaward, the famous chess analyst and reporter, crowned him "The most fanatical chess player in Texas" for playing in all fifteen Red River Shootout (RRSO) tournaments, the annual team match between the most fanatical chess players in Oklahoma and Texas. In 2013, he also served as Texas Chess Team Captain and Assistant Tournament Director. After his passing, Aurelio still holds two RRSO records: Top Gladiator (12 match victories) and Top Warrior (14.5 match points).

Aurelio was humble and willing to share both

victories and defeats if it would bring a smile to others. In late 2001, he brought to the club a long-forgotten game from 1982 between himself and one of this tribute's authors, Jim Hollingsworth (sent to him by a friend in New York). It was a Benko Gambit play in a last round, with Aurelio as white. It was like opening a time machine. We went over every move and could remember everything each of us was thinking. It didn't matter to Aurelio that he lost that game. For him it was a beautiful piece of art. Afterward, he gave me the scoresheet and I will treasure it forever!

Aurelio was generous and always encouraged younger players. Quaitemes Williams recalls Aurelio welcoming him to the old Watauga Chess Club in 2005. Aurelio gave Williams a chess book and improvement tips. Today, Williams is an Expert, paying Aurelio's gift forward by teaching youngsters chess and giving away his own chess books.

Carmen Chairez used to host playing sessions on Sunday afternoons in his home with local child prodigies. Sometimes they played blitz or bughouse. Sometimes they played standard time controls. Aurelio was there, wearing a big smile. Carmen also had this to say:

*Aurelio and I participated at chess tournaments all over Texas. Also, we went together to participate at the Red River Shoot Out tournaments in Oklahoma. We also mentored and encouraged two teenage players (Austen Green and Jacob Lee). For one weekend tournament, I first picked up Aurelio before picking up Jacob & Austen. He looked right at me and said: "Did you tell them that we snored?" I said, "No, why spoil the fun of letting them tell a story about us snoring?" Jacob and Austen never complained about us snoring. We paid for the hotel and they paid for their own tournament fees. Since we were going, why not invite them to come with us? That was our thought at the time.*

*When I was teaching at 3rd graders at Dallas elementary school, Aurelio joined me and played the 3rd grade students. He was impressed with their playing style. He also helped provide transportation for many players, with his van, to San Antonio tournaments. He was always ready to help with a smile! He was always polite and never complained about anything.*

He was buried like a true chess playing warrior, wearing his favorite blue plaid shirt. His glasses were hooked onto and hanging down from his left shirt pocket. Beside them were four evenly spaced ink pens. His left arm cradled his favorite rolled up chessboard. A bag filled with triple-weighted Staunton design chess pieces was positioned strategically below that. A few of his favorite chess books were displayed next to that. Along the right side of his belt was hooked a shiny golden piece of jewelry with the word chess in large letters.

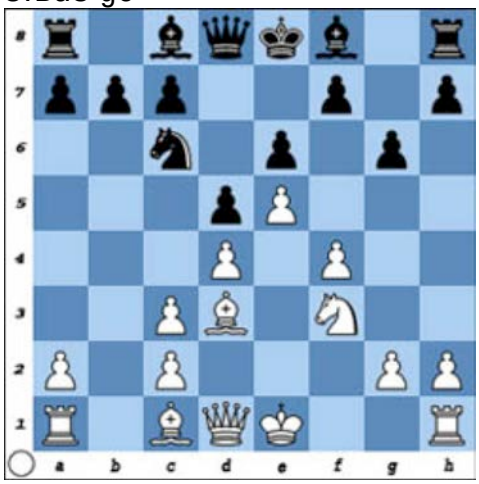
You can find his grave, today, at Fort Worth's Greenwood Memorial Park. Look for the tombstone inscribed with *"Checkmate!"*

Zelnick,David E (2146)
Galant,Sergey S (2178) [B02]
Frank K Berry Memorial Open (28.05.2017)
*[Notes by TB]*

The last-round game on board one. Not the most exciting game of the tournament, but perhaps the most educational. I saw no less than five moments in this game that I thought were very instructive, and try to point them out in these notes.

Galant needed only a draw to win the tournament.

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.Nc3 Nxc3 4.bxc3 d6 5.f4 Nc6 6.Nf3 e6?!
[I don't think that an adventurous player in the opening like Sergey would normally play such a "solid" move. It is too defensive an approach, accepting a cramped position like a French with his bishop "inside" the e6 pawn. Instead, let's see how the great Bent Larsen played it as black: 6...dxe5 7.fxe5 Qd5 8.d4 Bg4 (The bishop takes up an obviously more active position. True, it is double-edged.) 9.Be2 e6 10.0-0 Be7 11.Ng5 Bxe2 12.Qxe2 0-0 13.Qh5 Bxg5 14.Qxg5 Qe4 15.Ba3 Rfd8 16.Rf2 Rd7 17.Raf1 Na5 18.Bc1 c5 19.Rf3 Kh8 20.Rg3 Rg8 21.dxc5 Nc6 22.Bf4 Qxc2 23.Qh5 Qxa2 24.h3 Qc2 25.Kh2 a5 26.Be3 Qe4 27.Rxf7 Rxf7 28.Qxf7 Nxe5 29.Qe7 Ng6 30.Qc7 a4 31.Bd4 e5 32.Bf2 Rf8 33.Rg4 Qc6 34.Qxc6 bxc6 35.Bg3 Ra8 36.h4 a3 37.h5 a2 0-1 Bilek,I-Larsen,B/Sousse 1967/IZT]
7.d4 d5
Sometimes it is useful to evaluate a position by comparison with others you know. Here, it looks a lot like a Winawer variation of the French (1.e4, e6 2. d4, d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5, when black will capture on c3 to give white doubled pawns). The difference with the game position, however, is that (1) black has not had to give up his bishop to damage white's pawns, but (2) white is way ahead in tempi, and black's N on c6 is blocking his c-pawn. Overall, this favors white.
8.Bd3 g6



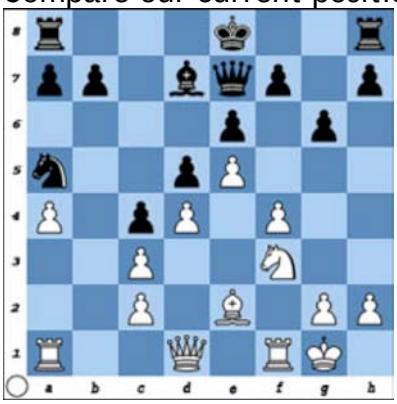
9.a4
Instructive moment #1!
Zel takes a positional approach, and it is a perfectly good move, but it only leads to a small edge. I think strong would be to directly attack black's pawn structure with 9.h4 (threatening h4-h5). Black practically has to play 9...h5 and now white could straightaway prepare for g2-g4 with 10.Ng5 The inclusion of these moves would make it easier to break through on f5 or g6 than white gets in the actual game. For example: 10...b6 *(*Or *10...Ne7 11.Ba3 Nf5 12.Bxf8* with a big positional edge.*)* 11.g4 Ne7!? *(11...hxg4?! 12.Qxg4 Ne7 13.h5* is white's general idea.*)* and here it seems to me white has a nice position -- Black's pieces look rather awkward, and tactics are already in the air. For example -- a possible variation here is 12.gxh5 Rxh5 *(12...gxh5 13.Nh7!)* 13.Nxf7!? Kxf7 14.Bxg6+ Nxg6 15.Qxh5 My computer says black is hanging on after 15...Bg7 here, but not many would like this position for black.
9...Na5 10.Ba3
A positional move, trading black's good bishop and leaving him with dark square weaknesses on the kingside.
10...Bxa3 11.Rxa3 Qe7 12.Ra1 c5 13.0-0 c4!?
Instructive moment #2!

With …c4, Sergey makes a major decision -- playing super-solid and releasing the tension in the center. I don't think Sergey would normally play this if the situation wasn't such that a draw suited him, as black's winning chances in such positions often involve penetrating down the c-file where white's weak pawns are located. Instead 13...Bd7 14.Qe1 Rc8 I think is a more combative idea for black, with rough equality, in which he would have his share of the winning chances.

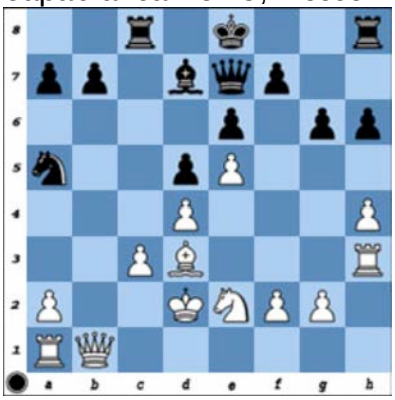
14.Be2 Bd7

Instructive moment #3!

Compare our current position:



to the April 2017 "Game of the Month" in the Oklahoma Chess Monthly between Capablanca-Torre, Moscow 1925:



In this similar position, the great Capablanca came up with the plan Q-b1-b4. So what does Zelnick do here in this game? …

15.Qb1! h6 16.Qb4

Well done Zel! Playing like Capablanca he neutralizes any ideas black has of attacking the a4 pawn, while also forcing the "repair" of white's pawn structure, giving him a slight edge due to black's bad bishop.

16...Qxb4 17.cxb4 Nc6 18.c3 Ne7 19.g4 Kf8

Insightful. He sees his king is needed to defend the kingside, but rather than castling he leaves his rook on h8, where it will be useful if the h-file opens up.

20.Bd1 Kg7 21.Ra2

Instructive moment #4!

21… a6

It's easy to pass over a move like 21...a6, especially when it works out well for black. But really this is a key decision, and if White had reacted more accurately it could have been crucial. Black hopes to play …b5 next and lock up the queenside, as happens in the game. But white could have avoided it.

Another way for black to do that would have been to instead play 21...b6!? What is the idea of this move? It is to "threaten" to play ...a6 next, and create a pawn structure concept that does not have a name that I know of, but which I've seen used by Anand and Petrosian in similar situations. We might call it the "Dynamic Lock" -- with the two pawn duos on a4/b4 opposite a6/b6, white has no advance on the queenside that black can't react by bypassing that pawn and locking the structure there. If white ever pushes his a-pawn, black will bypass it with ...b5 to lock it up. Similarly, if white pushes his b-pawn black will bypass it with ...a5 to lock it up again. The result is that the queenside is essentially already locked, and just like in the game white has only one possible break (on f5) to play for, which is not enough to win.

So, after 21...b6 the Dynamic Lock is black's threat. What can white do about it? He could try to push a pawn on the queenside right away before black plays

...a6. So, 22.b5!? could be tried *(22.a5!?* allows *22...b5* = locked.*)* however, the b5-pawn is a potential weakness that black could exploit with 22...a6! 23.bxa6 Rxa6 with big pressure on a4, thanks to the temporarily awkward placement of white's pieces. This is lousy for white.

Bottom line, I think 21 ... b6! was the most accurate move for black, as white doesn't have a way to prevent black from creating a dynamic lock on the queenside, after which the game would play out much like the actual game, leading to a draw.

22.Rg2?

Instructive moment #5 -- a mistake that greatly increases black's drawing chances. This allows black to completely lock the queenside. White missed his chance here to keep the queenside open with 22.a5! For example, if we continue similar to the actual game: 22...h5 23.h3 *(*My computer gives white an edge after *23.g5* but I don't know why White would lock the kingside like that. *23...Nf5 24.Ba4 Bb5 25.Bxb5 axb5 26.Rfa1 Ra6* looks quite solid to me.*)* 23...hxg4 24.hxg4 and white has a few more options for increasing his small advantage than he gets in the game, because in addition to f4-f5 ideas he also has b4-b5 ideas in reserve!]

22...b5 23.a5

So, black has locked the queenside. His bishop looks pathetic, but he only has to defend against one possible break (f4-f5). An old rule of thumb says two weaknesses are required for an attacker to break through, as the rest of this game shows... [White must lock the queenside. If 23.Ra2? then 23...a5! 24.bxa5 Rxa5 and white is in big trouble.

23...h5 24.h3

Optically this looks very nice for white, but how is he going to win it? Sergey looked pretty confident here, despite the bad bishop. But remember, it is actually doing something — indirectly protecting the square f5.

24...hxg4 25.hxg4 Rh3

Notice how Sergey keeps provoking the exchanges, heading closer to a draw.

26.Rh2 Rxh2 27.Kxh2 Rh8+ 28.Kg2 Bc8

29.Rh1

I don't agree with trading rooks if white is trying to win. But what else can white do?

How about this plan: Put K on g3, B on c2, R on f1, then play Nh4 and have everything supporting the push f4-f5. Even then black could just swap everything on f5 leaving a rook ending that can't be won anyway. For example: 29.Kg3 Bd7 30.Bc2 Bc8 31.Nh4 Bd7 32.f5 exf5 33.gxf5 gxf5 34.Nxf5+ Nxf5+ 35.Bxf5 Bxf5 36.Rxf5 White has achieved the maximum his one break will allow, and plans Rf6 next move. But black can also activate his own rook -- 36...Rh1 37.Rf6 Rc1 38.Rxa6 Rxc3+ 39.Kf2 Rb3 White isn't even winning this. Conclusion-- The one break f4-f5 is not enough to win the game.

29...Rxh1 30.Kxh1 Ng8 31.Nh4

The computer says white has a pretty large advantage here (+0.72). However, don't believe everything the computer tells you! An advantage is not real if it can't be exploited. If you follow the computer's supposed best line for white, you can see it goes nowhere: 31.Bc2 Nh6 32.Nh2 Bb7 33.Kg2 Bc8 34.Kf2 Bb7 35.Kf3 Ng8 36.Nf1 Ne7 37.Ne3 Bc8 38.Kg3 Bd7 39.Ng2 Be8 40.Nh4 Bd7 41.Nf3 Kh6 42.Ng5 Kg7 43.Kh4 Ng8 44.Nf3 Kh6 45.Kh3 Ne7 46.Kg3 Nc6 47.Ng5 Kg7 48.Kf3 Be8 49.Ke3 Bd7 50.Nf3 Bc8 51.Nd2 Kh6 52.Kf3 Kg7 53.Kg3 Ne7 54.Nf3 Bd7 55.Kh4 Kh6 etc. All the while in this variation the computer thinks white is +0.72; but this means nothing, as it can't show a way to make progress.

31...Bd7 32.Bf3

Maybe threatening f4-f5 by attacking the d5 pawn. Sergey is alert to that.

32...Ne7

Continued on page 24

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For More Tournament Info Visit the USCF Tournament Site:
www.uschess.org/tlas/upcoming.php

**July 8 2017** **All-American Chess Festival** **Fort Smith AR**
An "activity-filled chess fest" with five competitive events, free activities, raffle prizes, art, and more. Sponsored by Propak Corporation and Westark Chess Club. Saturday, from 10am to 6pm. Info: http://arkansaschess.net/events-upcoming-and-previous.html

**July 22-23 2017** **Kansas Open** **Wichita KS**
5-SS; G/2;d5. Holiday Inn, 549 South Rock Rd., Wichita KS. EF$45 adv by July 15, $55 at door. Bughouse and Blitz tournaments Friday night 7/21. Three sections: Open, Reserve (U1800), Amateur (U1400) **Info:** Laurence Coker. Wlcoker7@hotmail.com Information website: http://www.kansaschess.org/htdocs/2017KansasOpenFlier2.pdf

Aug 5-6 Missouri Open Kansas City MO

5SS, G/120 d5. Unity Village Hotel, 1901 NW Blue Parkway, Unity Village, (Kansas City) MO. 888-377-0358. Prizes: b/50. Open: $500(G)-250 U2000 125, U1800 100 Reserve U1600: $200-100 $100 1st in D/E/U1000-Unr. Reg: 8:30-9:30 EF: $40 adv by 8/4. $50 cash on site. MCA mem required, Info: Randy Merrell, rwmerrell@gmail.com, 321-277-2751. MCA General Membership Meeting—9:30-10:15am Sunday. Additional info: https://goo.gl/E3SqGi.

Sep 2-3 2017 Jerry Spann Memorial *New Site!* Oklahoma City OK
5-SS; G/90+30; Crowne Plaza Oklahoma City, 2945 Northwest Expressway, OKC 73112, (405)848-4811, Free WiFi. Website: http://bit.ly/2s0jwhM Two Sections: Open, and Reserve (U1700). EF: $40 if mailed by 8/25, $50 thereafter, FREE entry for Masters 2200+ (deducted from prizewinnings). Free OCF Memb. Prizes $$2100 (1st prize Gtd., the rest b/62). Open: $450(G)-200 U2100: 200-100, U1900: 200-100, Reserve (U1700): $250-150, U1400: 200-100, U1100/UNR: 150. More $$ if entries permit. Byes: One half-point bye Rds 1-5 if commit before Sat 9PM. REG: 9-9:45 Sat AM Rounds: 10-2:30-7, 9-1:15. Entries to: Tom Braunlich, 7500 S. Birch, Broken Arrow OK 74011. Inquiries: tom.braunlich@cox.net Web: www.ocfchess.org

Sep 23-24 2017 SW Missouri Diehards Fall Open Joplin MO
5-SS; G/90+30; Hilton Garden Inn, 2644 E. 32nd St., Joplin, MO 64804. **EF**: $40 if by 9/22, $50 at site. (Optional Scholastic (K-12), play for rating only, $20 if reg by 9/22, $30 at site). MCA memb required for MO residents; available on-site $5. $$**Prizes**: $200, $150; U1600 $100; U1400 $80; U1200/UNR $60 (5-0 Bonus: $40). **Rds**: Sat 10:00, 2:30, 7:00; Sun 9:30, 2:00. **Reg:** 8am-9:30am Saturday. (Advance registration preferred.) EF by check and cash only at site, if you have an up-to-date membership. **Info**: Martin Stahl, martin.stahl@joplinchess.org **TD:** M. Stahl (417) 483-1554 Please bring set, clock, board, and score sheets.

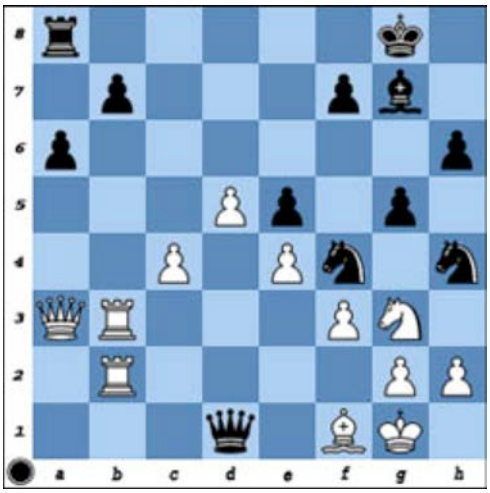
Oct 14 2017 AR - OK Friendly Feud for National Chess Day Fort Smith AR
One-day team chess events. Info: http://arkansaschess.net/events-upcoming-and-previous.html

queenside seems dubious as long as the a6-pawn is then left hanging. And it's true, the computer evaluates it as +1.5. However, Anthony finds a clever way to get his king to safety, aided by some indecisive moves from white.
15...Qe7 16.Ne4 Bb7 17.Rhe1? [A hackneyed move. Stronger was 17.Rd4 with the idea of doubling on the d-file, pressurizing d7. 17...Bxe4 18.Qxe4 0-0 is the best idea the computer has, but no human being would feel good about defending the weak king position there.] 17...Bc6! [Note that if 17...0-0?? 18.Rxd7] 18.Bb3 [The second slow move in a row and I'm starting to lose my advantage; but I didn't realize what Anthony was up to. Comp says: 18.Qd2 Bxa4 19.Qh6 Rg8 20.Qf4 is winning.] 18...h5 19.Nd4 Bb7 20.f4 0-0-0 21.Bc4 Black succeeded in getting castled, but I still was expecting my last move to be strong. 21...Nc5! 22.Nf6 [22.Nxc5 Qxc5 23.c3 Qa5 was Anthony's clever idea to parry my attack on a6. Now white only has a small edge.] 22...Nxa4!? [22...hxg4 23.hxg4 Ne8= is what the computer likes.] 23.Bxa6 Qb4! Hey, I'm the one supposed to be attacking here. [Please note that white was threatening Qe4! here, i.e. 23...hxg4? 24.Qe4! Bxa6? 25.Qa8#] 24.Bxb7+ Kxb7 Both players were already in time trouble here.

25.Qg2+? [An unfortunate move order inaccuracy. Better was the immediate 25.c3 Nxc3 *(25...Qc5 26.Qf3+ Ka6 27.Ne4* is winning*)* 26.bxc3 Qxc3+ 27.Nc2 Ra8 28.Qe4+ and unlike the game black cannot block this check with the rook to d5. 28...c6 29.Rd7+ Kc8 30.Kd1! winning. Of course this was a computer line, very hard to find over the board.] 25...Rd5 [I thought he had to play 25...Ka6 (to avoid Nc6 forks) where the king on a6 blocks his rook coming to the a-file, and is vulnerable also to checks from e2. For example 26.c3 Qc4 *(26...Nxc3 27.bxc3 Qxc3+ 28.Nc2* is now winning, unlike the game.*)* 27.Qe2 Qxe2 28.Rxe2 with a serious endgame edge for white.]
26.c3? [Surprised by his last move I made a hasty (and lazy) response. I just assumed my knight coming back to c2 would adequately protect my king, without bothering to calculate anything. I considered 26.Nb3! but dismissed it because it loses the f-pawn with check. But that is a small price to pay for ending black's counterplay! For example: 26...Qxf4+ 27.Kb1 hxg4 *(27...c6 28.Nxd5 cxd5 29.Rd4)* 28.hxg4 *(28.Nxd5 Qf3)* 28...Rh2 29.Nxd5! wins.] 26...Nxc3 27.bxc3 Qxc3+ 28.Nc2 Ra8 29.Kb1 Qb3+ Oops. I hadn't seen that when I went into this. 30.Kc1 Qc3 [Luckily for me if Black tries to win with 30...Ra2 white has 31.Rxd5! Qb2+ 32.Kd1 Qb1+ 33.Ke2 Qxc2+ 34.Rd2+ check!] 31.Kb1 Qb3+ 32.Kc1 Qc3 ½-½

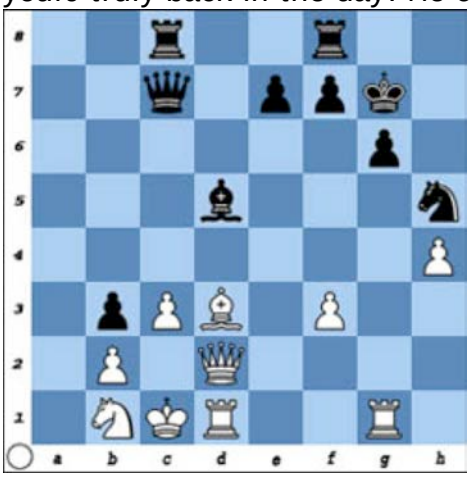
Glashausser, Sho (1772)
Graham-Bowcaster, Shaun (1934) [E80]
Frank K Berry Memorial Open, *[TB]*
This game features a painful lesson.
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 a6 6.Be3 c6 7.a4 Qa5 8.Bd3 e5 9.d5 c5 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.0-0 h6 12.Qd2 Nf8 13.Rfb1 Qd8 14.a5 Nh5 15.Na4 g5 16.Ng3 Nf4 17.b4 cxb4 18.Nb6 Rb8 19.Rxb4 N8g6 20.Rab1 0-0 21.Bf1 Nh4 22.Nxc8 Qxc8 23.Ba7 Qc7 24.Bxb8 Rxb8 25.Qe3 Qxa5 26.Qb6 Qa3 27.R4b3 Qa2 28.R1b2 Qa1 29.Qxd6 Ra8 30.Qa3 Qd1 (diagram next page)

Young Glashausser had been having an excellent tournament and here looks like he is going to cap it off with another win. He had been totally outplaying his crafty opponent for many moves. It seems like any move wins. Bothered by the black queen's



presence on the back rank he decides to unpin his bishop.... **31.Kf2?? Bf8!** Backward moves are often overlooked, and seldom so strong! Sho will never forget this possibility again! **32.Qa2** [The best chance was 32.Qa5 but 32...Rc8! 33.Qd2 Bc5+ 34.Re3 Nh3+! 35.gxh3 Qxf3+ 36.Ke1 Bxe3 is winning for black. But Sho was probably in shock at this point.] **32...Bc5+ 33.Re3 Bxe3+ 34.Kxe3 Qd4# 0-1**

Ravits, Richard (1747)
Tran, Luke M (1780) [B72]
Frank K Berry Memorial Open *[TB]*
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.h3 Bg7 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Be2 0-0 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.f3 b5 13.a3 Rb8 14.Bh6 a5 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.g4 b4 17.axb4 axb4 18.Nb1 Qc7 19.h4 Rbc8 20.Bd3 b3 21.c3 h5 22.gxh5 Nxh5 23.Rhg1 d5 [23...Ra8] 24.exd5 Bxd5
Ravits is a veteran who has trounced a lot of young kids like Luke in his time, including yours truly back in the day. He can attack...



25.Bxg6! fxg6 26.Rxg6+! [26.Qxd5 Nf4 27.Qe4 is a slight edge for white. But he wants more!] 26...Kxg6 27.Qg5+ Kf7 28.Qxh5+ Ke6 29.Qxd5+ Kf6 For the exchange sac white gets a wide open black king, but cannot afford to let up. Can he find the win? 30.Qg5+ Kf7 31.Qh5+ Ke6 32.Qd5+ Kf6 33.Qg5+ Kf7 34.Rg1! Ke6 35.Re1+ Kd6 36.Na3! The knight joins in. 36...Rb8 37.Nb5+ Rxb5 38.Qxb5 Qb8 39.Qxb8+ Rxb8 40.Rh1 Ravits is also no stranger to rook endings. 40...Rf8 41.Rh3 Ke6 42.h5 Rh8 43.h6 Kf6 44.h7 Kg6 45.Kd2 Rxh7 46.Rxh7 Kxh7 47.Ke3 Kg6 1-0

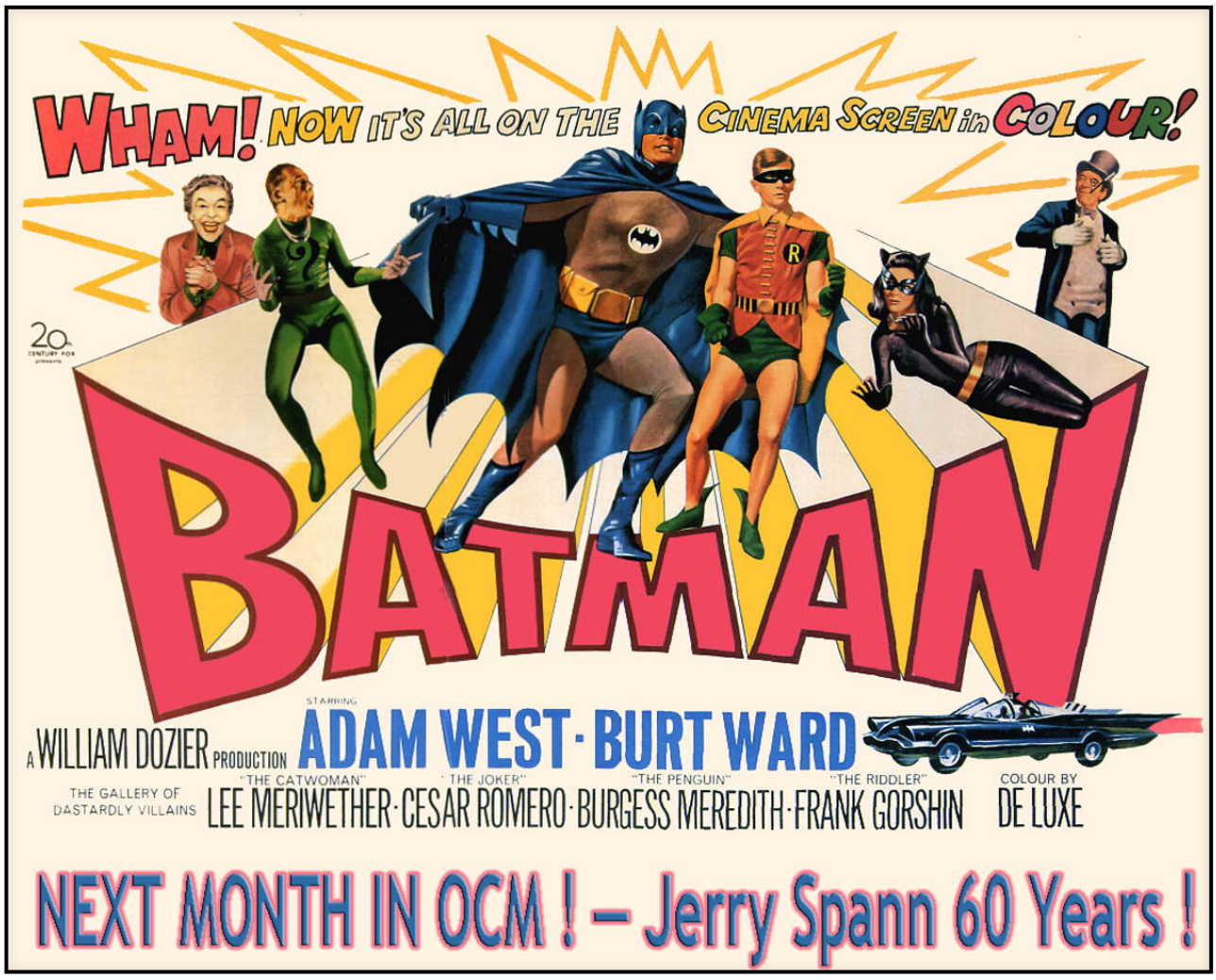
Smith, Danial (1695)
Armenta, CJ (1542) [D02]
Frank K Berry Memorial –Reserve
*[Notes by Smith]*
This was my best win of the tournament.
1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.Nf3 e6 4.e3 h6 5.h3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 c5 7.c3 c4 (It is a mistake to release the central tension so early—TB) 8.Bc2 Nb6 9.Nbd2 Bd6 10.Ne5 0-0 11.0-0 Qc7 12.Qf3 Nfd7 13.Qg3 Bxe5 14.dxe5 Kh8 15.Nf3 Qd8 16.e4 Nc5 17.Rad1 Qe7 18.exd5 Nxd5 19.Bc1
Not the best move. Here, White missed the very nice winning move 19.Bg5! when 19...hxg5? loses instantly to Nxg5 *(*and after *19...Qc7 20.Qh4 Kg8 21.Rd4 f5 22.exf6 Nxf6 23.Bf4* White has a decisive advantage.*)* 19...b6 20.Rfe1 Bb7 21.Qg4 f5 22.Qxc4 Rac8 23.Qe2 Rfd8 24.Nd4 Qf7 25.Nb5 Qg6 26.f3 Ba6 27.a4 Qe8 28.c4
[28.Rd4!]
28...Bxb5 29.axb5 Ne7 30.b4 Nd7 31.Rd6 Ng6 32.Bb2 Nf4 33.Qd2 g5 34.Rd1 Rxc4 35.Bb3 Rc7 36.Kh2 Ng6 37.Rxe6 Qg8 38.Qd5 Kh7 39.Rd6 Qxd5 40.Bxd5 Nf4 41.Bc6 Nb8 42.Rxd8 Nxc6 43.R8d7+ Rxd7 44.Rxd7+ Ne7 45.Rxe7+ Kg6 46.Rxa7 Nd3 47.Bc3 f4 48.e6 Kh5 49.e7 Kh4 50.e8Q Nf2 51.Qe1 g4 52.Bf6+ Kh5 53.Qe8#
1-0

*More games from the FKB Memorial next month.*

Game of the Month, continued…
Protecting d5, as well as f5.
33.Ng2?
Attempting a reorganization of his pieces Zelnick allows a blow to completely deaden the position.
33...g5!
Taking the opportunity to completely stop any possible breakthroughs.
34.fxg5 Kg6 After black recovers the g5 pawn white will no longer have any possible breakthroughs and the game will clearly be a draw.
35.Nf4+ Kxg5 36.Nh5 Ng6 37.Kg2 Nf4+ 38.Nxf4 Kxf4 39.Kf2 Be8 40.Bd1 Bd7
The funny thing is, as Sergey pointed out, even if white threw away his g-pawn here the game would still be a draw, black's bishop is so defensively oriented.
41.Bf3 ½ - ½
With this solid draw Sergey sent his rating back over 2200 and won the first FKB Memorial.

Frank Sinatra resigns to Walter Browne

"My motto is,
when you win you earn,
when you lose you learn."
—GM Walter Browne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NEXT MONTH IN OCM ! – Jerry Spann 60 Years !